

ding (1775), and joint author of the famous *Wiener Verzeichniss*". No source or reason for such a statement can be traced. It is clearly false for two reasons; both authors were named in the 1775 review, and the texts of the two works are identical<sup>1</sup>.

Whatever the background to the history the main facts are clear. Names cannot be attributed to just "Schiff.", it must be Den. & Schiff., or D. & S., wherever "W.V." was used by the old authors. As the work was anonymous, square brackets are needed for [D. & S.] if such distinctions are being made. The full and extended citation of the work is:

[DENIS, J.N.C.M., & SCHIFFERMÜLLER, I.], 1775. *Ankündigung eines systematisches Werkes von der Schmetterlinges der Wiener Gegend*. [2] tp., 1-304, [2 blank], 305-322, [323 Anzeige], [324 blank], fts., 2 pls. 4°. Wien. (The two plates lie between pp. 304, 305).

If any change had been made, or if the work had been reprinted, the errata on p. 323, which refer only to pp. 45-98, would undoubtedly have been corrected (or augmented); but there is no change. The only difference in the texts which I have found is that page 313 of the 1775 issue was numbered "31". This presumably was a mishap corrected by the printer during the actual printing process. It is noted that the plates of the reissue are reversed right for left. The text figure on p. 304 is signed "T. I. Schiffermüller", which dispels any doubt as to the spelling of his name (T. standing for Theresian).

## A Holiday in the East Pyrenees, June-July 1970, with Notes on the Lepidoptera Observed

By E. P. WILTSHIRE

### SYNOPSIS

A stay in the Pyrénées Orientales, France, 17th June-13th July, is described. In the course of a general narrative, observations on the phenology, foodplant and morphology are given on some Lepidoptera. On 9th July at 2100 m. nocturnal migrant species came to light in large numbers in a thick cloud of mist; diurnal migrant species were noted at about 1000 m. on 21st and 23rd June in small numbers. Probably of interest to students of distributions are the capture of (a) *Satyrus ferula cordula* Scop. in the Val d' Eyne at 1500 m., (b) *Lycaena helle deslandesi* Hemm. and *Hamearis lucina* (L.) in the Tet valley just below Lac des Bouillouses at 1900 m., (c) *Pyrgus malvoides* El. & Ed., a much smaller form at Lac des Bouillouses at 2100 m., than at the localities near Vernet-les-Bains (700-1100 m.), (d) *Tethea* or F. at Casteil (not in Dufay, 1961), (e) *Mamestra bi-ren* Goeze (= *glauca* Kleem.) at Lac des Bouillouses (c. 2100 m.) (not in Dufay, 1961); (f) *Hadena ruetimeyeri* Boursin at Lac des Bouillouses (c. 2100 m.). A list is given of altogether 223 Macro-Lepidoptera noted

during the holiday with their localities. Of this total of 223, 81 were Rhopalocera and Grypocera, cf. in Dufay's list, 160 Rhopalocera and Grypocera out of a total of 1094, for the Department all the year round.

#### *Narrative*

One's first visit to a district as well known as the French East Pyrenees, particularly the Tet-valley, is unlikely to produce startling discoveries in the field of Lepidoptera. My aim was that my wife and I should enjoy a real holiday somewhere with a decent climate and a rich fauna and flora which might, to add interest, be sampled and studied to a reasonable extent. A real holiday for us, of course means avoiding the thickest crowds, household chores, snow, salt and sand, also excessive heat or rain. It seemed that a fortnight at 700 m., followed by another fortnight at 2000 m. in the Eastern Pyrenees would answer these requirements, and after consulting the Guide Michelin and several colleagues, bookings were made at (a) Le Catalan hotel in the village of Casteil above Vernet-les-Bains, and (b) at the Hotel BBones Hores, Lac des Bouillouses, north of Mont Louis on the eastern slopes of Pic Carlit. By the time the whole of France, triggered off by Bastille Day and the school holidays, were encumbering the roads to the beaches, we would be returning from Narbonne to Normandy on a car-sleeper.

Our southward journey in mid-June, however, was made by road, with single-night stops and without reservations and went according to plan; it deserves no mention here except to say that rain and thunder did not tempt us to prolong our one-night stop at Gèdre (Hautes Pyrénées) (Pension Brèche de Roland), so we drove down again and westward.

As we passed over the Col du Portel on the evening of 16th June we left behind us the lush storm-wracked Atlantic zone and saw, spread out before us, the sunny Mediterranean maquis and limestone hills surrounding Quillan. In this town we spent the night at the Hotel Chaumière, in the town-centre, the other hotel, on the periphery, being full up. A further 110 km on 17th June, via Estagel by a roundabout but easy road brought us to our destination at Casteil. On the way, passing over the Col de la Bataille, we did not stop to pick up the *Melanargia* which seemed numerous there; they proved when sampled on a later visit to be *lachesis* Hübner, the distinctive subspecies of *galathea* L.; but our lunch stop near Millas showed *Pyronia bathseba* subsp. *pardilloi* Sag. flying in abundance on a bushy roadside bank, and also one or two *lachesis* amid the vineyards. The former, however, were already rather rubbed, but we found a few days later at Cattlar, above Prades, a population in fresher condition and with a slightly greater wing-span than the Millas ones. These two butterflies were a clear indication that we had arrived in a new zoogeographical region.

From Millas we turned again on the road towards the Spanish frontier and left it again at Villefranche-de-Conflent,

and halted briefly at a suitable spot not far from this town, in the gorge of the Cady which flows down from Vernet-les-Bains. A brief sample of the butterflies showed this to be rich terrain, with an admixture of Mediterranean with Euro-Siberian forms, as is equally true of all the surroundings of Vernet, including Casteil: southward facing slopes tended to be characterised by *Cistus* and lavender, while the northward slopes and valley bottoms, if not planted with apple, provided a great variety of meadow and woodland biotopes swarming with a high proportion of the typical European fauna.

The hotel Le Catalan at Casteil (700 m.) proved to be an excellent choice. Food, wine, and service were good, the atmosphere cheerful and friendly; a double bedroom with private bath (the only one such) and full pension for two weeks cost us about £100 all-in. It was surrounded on two sides by a small apple orchard and on the other two by the village, which is very small, and its fields. All around are wooded slopes, with numerous torrents. Excellent hunting ground was about  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile away, easily accessible by motorable tracks or on foot. A well-organised camping ground in an orchard close to the torrent was noted about half-way between Casteil and Vernet, whose situation would be ideal for attracting moths without moving from one's tent. At the Catalan, one could get good moths to light but more and better ones by going a short distance away. The hotels at Vernet-les-Bains seemed entomologically poorly placed, except of course for the Hotel Angleterre, mentioned in previous articles about Vernet, nestling half a mile above the town in the Cady gorge, a little below the camping ground. It seemed however ill-maintained and lifeless; we were told it now took overflow tourists from other hotels to sleep only, the previous proprietrix having ceased to be active. However, this state of affairs could change again, and it would be worth investigating.

The lighted veranda of Le Catalan attracted a few moths every night, and on our first night I thus took *Epicallia villica* (L.), *Caradrina aspersa* Ramb., and a bleached, chipped female of *Gnophos mucidarius* Hübn., which laid ova between 18th and 21st June. A number of low plants were offered to the larvae which hatched about 1st July, but the only thing to please them were the pale mauve flowers of an undetermined species of *Linaria*, somewhat resembling the Jersey toadflax (*L. pelisseriana*) which grew on dry spots both at Casteil and higher in the department. They were fascinating little creatures to watch, sitting tight on the flower-petals and vibrating their fore-parts almost in unison at the slightest alarm. Only in their last instar did they drop this habit, which I have also noted when rearing from ova larvae of the Middle East species of the same genus, *G. dubitarius* Stgr., which in fact belongs to the same subgenus too. The mature larva of *mucidarius* is remarkable for its spine-like dorsal tubercles,

arranged in pairs on somites 5 to 8 and 10, each being bifid. On returning to Normandy in mid-July I succeeded in persuading them to transfer to *Linaria vulgaris*, and obtained a small series of gen. 2 at the end of August; this lot were coloured pale orange-brown, variegated with dark blue-grey. Nearly all the subgenus *Euchrognophos* Wehrli have this orange tint which makes them for me the most attractive group in the very large and rather confusing genus *Gnophos*. The rather southerly or, rather, Mediterranean to Central Asian, distribution of this subgenus gives it also a scarcity value.

For night-work, however, I relied rather on an actinic tube operated from my car-battery than on the hotel lights. One of the moths so taken was a ♂ *Pterostoma palpina* (L.), a chocolate-brown form darker and more nearly unicolorous than the *palpina* gen. 1 form which I have taken in Normandy which is variegated straw and grey; another was *Tethea* or F., a species not mentioned in Dufay's list of species inhabiting this department of France.

Perhaps the best of all localities close to Casteil, accessible to motor traffic, was the Col de Jou (1000 m.), on a western shoulder of Canigou. At the Col, one forest track branched eastward, mounting the far side of this 2785 m. mountain, whose peak, by this approach was too distant for us; probably, too, the track was only to be attempted in a jeep. The other fork, from the Col, was not on any map; it had been made some years before to a now disused quarry which disfigured a ridge further to the west of the Col, and indeed seemed to cut a new Col at about 1200 m. in this ridge, which might well be called Quarry Pass or Col de la Carrière. Just below the fork at the Col de Jou itself, and on the left, was a flowery meadow with terrace-like irrigation, rich in butterflies. The track to the quarry was also a productive walk, with steep slopes above and below; it was impassable for motor traffic. After the flowery, productive stretch, the track turned and became gloomier, overshadowed by a beech forest, with fewer insects on the wing by day. Finally, at about 1250 m. on the far side of the Quarry Pass, the path virtually ended at a grassy slope overlooking the Sahorre valley and the village of Py: glorious scenery, well worth the hour's walk, from the Col de Jou. We reached this point on 21st June, on a fine day following a rainy night; in the beech wood on the way back, we noticed a female *Phalera buchephala* L., apparently lifeless in a puddle on the track. Placed in a carton, and warmed by the afternoon sun, she came to life and during the following night laid two neat batches of yellow ova, which hatched on 7th July, by which date beech (*Fagus*) foliage was difficult to obtain, so I bred up the larvae on *Salix caprea* and later, at Le Havre, on *Salix babylonica* and occasional *Fagus*. Pupation took place in August and moths hatched, slightly forced, in April 1971.

Throughout our holiday there was a tendency for afternoon thunder-storms to creep eastward from the higher peaks

further west, but they seldom got as far as Canigou and Casteil. The quickest way up Canigou is by hired jeep from Vernet, as described by de Worms (1966), as far as the chalet-restaurant at Les Cortalets (2200 m.), amidst the pines, with the peak and its snows towering behind and a tarn frequented by grazing cattle. De Worms visited this place in July but was disappointed; nevertheless he took more than I did on 26th June, a date that seemed too early for any of the specialities. A few *Vanessa cardui* L., *Aglais urticae* L., *Issoria lathonia attenuata* Sag., *Pieris napi* L., and *Gonopteryx rhamni* L. were seen, also a single *Isturgia limbaria* F., a species common among broom at 1000 m. and higher over a wide area. Only a very fine female *Nymphalis polychloros* L., taken at 1800 m., where the track went through a tunnel, partly consoled me.

If June was too early to get much at 2200 m., the season was well advanced on the drier slopes below Vernet, which we visited on days when clouds or storms seemed to threaten the higher localities; indeed such day-fliers as *Papilio feisthameli* Dup., *Lampides baeticus* L., and *Synthymia fixa* F., which characterised these lower drier localities, were far from fresh.

The first of the two localities in this category which we visited appears as "Vernet 600 m." on my labels; it was in fact the Crêtes de Fully, a ridge-top crossed by the road linking Vernet with Sahorre in the Rotja valley. One can walk from the road, or even drive a car along an un-made track, northward along this ridge for some distance, and already it shows signs of tourist-erosion, a fate that awaits too many beautiful places which cars can penetrate. Quite a number of *P. feisthameli* were seen on this ridge, all past their best on 19th June, and some very active *L. baeticus*, so worn as to be colourless; these rapid ghosts, looking larger than life, were most intriguing and difficult to catch and when finally netted proved a disappointment! *Argynnis paphia* L. was already out here, but elusive. *Heodes alciphron veronius* Fruhst. and *Nordmannia ilicis* Esp. were fresh, too, and easier to catch, and a few *P. bathseba* and *M. lachesis* were also noted. Among the moths, *Chlorissa pulmentaria* Guen. was put up by day, amidst swarms of *Tortrix viridana* L., and in the evening the light attracted *Pseudoips bicolorana* Fuessly, *E. villica*, *Metopoceras canteneri* Dup., *Caradrina flavirena* Guen., and *selini* Boisd., etc., and among the Pyralids *Loxostege verticalis* D. & S. On two different species of oak half-grown larvae of *Lymantria dispar* L. were noted the same day.

The second locality in the dry, low category, was further away and involved a trip through Prades, the picturesque market-town in the Tet valley east of Villefranche, where Casals lives. Leaving the main road at Prades we crossed the river and mounted the slopes above Cattlar, and took the turning for Sourniya. It was a bit too far to work at night from Casteil; but on both our visits (18th and 28th June) we

found plenty flying here by day, no matter what the weather might be doing at Casteil or higher. On the 18th, we found *P. bathseba* plentiful not far from Cattlar, flying with *Pieris mannii* Mayer, *Melitaea didyma* Esp., *garumna* Verity, etc., and a few *M. lachesis* on both visits. On 28th June we found also *Plebejus argus* freshly hatched in plenty; it was a larger and lighter form than the *argus* flying at higher elevations and rather reminiscent of *Lycaeides idas* L., but the fore-leg tibial spine, present in all examples, is a diagnostic character of *argus*. *P. bathseba* was still plentiful, and among others taken were *Strymonidia spini* D. & S., *N. ilicus*, and *Sterrrha ochrata* Scop.; *L. dispar* larvae were now mostly full-grown and plentiful both on the oaks and on *Pistacia terebinthus* but we did not take them. A larva of *Sterrrha circuitaria* Hübn. was found on flowers of *Silene inflata*, the moth hatching on 31st July.

A third locality in this category, which we did not work is that corresponding to the first, near Vernet, but on the crests of the right bank of the Cady; this ridge is crossed by the track linking Vernet with Fillols.

Doubtless we ought to have proceeded further along the road from Cattlar to Sourniya, where *Euphydryas desfontainii pierroni* Lajon. was discovered, but we might well have been too late for it, and I note from a recent article (Mazel, 1971) that the proprietor of the land where it flies charges for admission!

Casteil itself, and the Col de Jou thus provided the greatest riches, for the season seemed just right there, and the list of species at the end gives the details. Villefranche might have done equally well, but we were content with the 700 m.-1000 m. contour. The only *Erebia* species which we saw was *E. meolans* de Prun., in a form transitional to *bejarensis* common at the Col, but not quite reaching the village of Casteil. According to Bretherton the form on Canigou is *almada* Fruhst., while subsp. *zagazia* Fruhst. flies at Porté, so the former name appears to apply.

Just before the end of our stay at the Hotel Catalan, Dr and Mrs Dacie arrived and by a coincidence were placed at a table next to ours; they had just come from Porté (1625 m. and further west than any of the places we visited) and had a beautiful series of *Procllossiana eunomia* Esp. from there on the setting-boards; Dr Dacie had also seen *L. helle deslandesi* fairly commonly there but going over, only the females being in tolerable condition.

On 1st July we ourselves drove westwards, but branched north at Mont Louis up to the Lac des Bouillouses, stopping a-while at 1650 m. in the Forest de Barrès. Here, as in many other of the Pyrenean localities which we visited, *Clossiana euphrosyne* L. and *selene* D. & S. were both flying. *Cyaniris semiargus* Rott. was common, and there were not a few *Erebia oeme pacula* Fruhst. in a rather small form. The trees were now mainly conifers; and dwarf broom, with its thick scented

yellow flowers, began to replace the common broom. The narrow but adequate road climbed slowly towards the lake parallel to the Tet torrent whose banks here and there had been selected by motorist campers relishing the wonderful air and scenery.

On arrival below the barrage we found we had to cross an "Irish bridge" which, we noticed, deterred some visiting motorists from crossing towards the big hotel. On the left bank, as one approaches the barrage, are a few shacks used by educational organisations for summer camps and one or two tiny restaurants; one cannot call it a village. The Lac des Bouillouses is a comparatively new body of water formed by a straight barrage, whose top is not open to motor traffic; it crosses the quite wide neck of what was once evidently a vast swampy pasturage, the lower part of which, sloping due south and draining by a different valley towards Font Romeu, is still much grazed and on the maps is spelt "Bones Aures". The Tet valley gorge branches south-west from this just below the barrage, and an enormous water-pipe runs down it to the hydro-electric works below without in any way disfiguring the scene. The whole valley of Bones Aures, with its upper half now a lake, is surrounded by forest and crags, those on the west towards Pic Carlit (2921 m.) being intersected by torrents and small lakes where there is choice fishing; this is controlled by a keeper who also acts as a guide. Scores of anglers appear every week-end, parking their cars just below the hotel, which, however, they seem to find intimidating and pretentious; we had it very much to ourselves, though it would be full-up in late July and August, like most hotels in France. Our fortnight here in a room with private bath (all rooms are identical) cost us £100 on demi-pension, to which must be added about £10 for lunch-snacks at midday, when we often drove down the road to other localities.

The situation of the hotel is entomologically as good as one could wish—quite isolated, some fifty metres higher than the lake and several hundred metres away, with the forests and crags close to it on one side. Three enormous mixed-light lamps on the front attract the moths freely on most nights, but being at first-storey height are not easily worked. However, our bed-room was next to one, and by leaning out of the window with a net I managed to catch a good sample of the insects attracted, many also alighting on the window-sill. This performance aided the digestion and helped one to go to sleep later; it also entertained the hotel staff and occasional guests, but they got bored before I did. One also found on the ground floor a few moths which had entered by windows or doors, and on our day of arrival, I took in this way a specimen of *Hadena ruetimeyeri* Boursin, probably the seventh known example of this rarity, and a new locality for it, its easternmost.

There was, however, less variety, both in diurnals and nocturnals, at this height than at altitudes of 700-1500 m. which I worked; nevertheless certain species, obviously resi-

dents at Lac des Bouillouses, came to light in fairly large numbers, particularly *Lasionycta nana* Hufn., *Hadena bi-ren* Goetze, *Mythimna comma* (L.) and *Epirrhoe molluginata* Hübner. Of these, *H. bi-ren* seems to be a new record for the Eastern Pyrenees. Others, rather less numerous, included *Pergesa porcellus* (L.), *Apatele auricoma* D. & S., and *euphorbiae* D. & S., *Eucharia casta* Esper, *Agrotis simplonia* Geyer and *Hadena caesia* D. & S., and *tephroleuca* Boisd., also the Geometrids *Eupithecia linariata* F. and *Gnophos ambiguata* Dup. On 12th July, females of *Lasiocampa quercus* (L.) and *Macrothylacia rubi* (L.) were taken at light, but since the males, flying wildly by day, proved impossible to catch, I cannot say what form or subspecies of *L. quercus* occurs at this height in the East Pyrenees.

By day, the lake's immediate surroundings provided fairly good hunting, with agreeable walks in all directions; the variety of species might well be more interesting in late July or August. As it was, I took *Callophrys rubi* (L.) and *Pyrgus malvoides* E. & Ed. still in good condition: the latter's wingspan was about 3 mm. less than the Casteil and Col de Jou *malvoides*; but the reverse tendency was noted in the races of *Polyommatus icarus* Rott., the higher altitude forms of which were the larger. *Epirrhoe tristata* (L.), *Isturgia limbaria* and *Ematurga atomaria* (L.) were the commonest day-flying Geometrids and two species of *Erebia* were noted: *E. triaria* de Prun. fairly commonly and *E. epiphron fauveaui* de Lesse of which one was taken on 6th July in the narrow defile of the Tet not far from the barrage: probably later in the month more would have been in evidence. This defile was the most rewarding spot within close range of the hotel, as I took a few *L. helle deslandesi* there—apparently the highest elevation at which it has been noted, and also the odd *Parnassius mnemosyne* (L.) and *Hamearis lucina* (L.). The local East Pyrenean race of *helle*, is usually looked for by visitors at Porté, but has, in fact, been taken even further east than where I took it. Descimon (1960) has recorded capturing it in the Upper Aude basin at 1700 m. on 6.vi.58, and Real (1962) on 18.vii.62 near Col de Porthos.

*Euphydryas aurinia debilis* Ob. was not uncommon both above and below the lake, at 1900 m., on the pastures of Bones Aures (1900 m.) and among the fishing sites of the plateau below Pic Carlit (2200 m.). At the latter it flew perhaps more freely; and a number of Pyralids, but no *Psodos* were seen; it was perhaps too early for the latter.

On 9th July unusual meteorological conditions occurred which appeared to affect the numbers of certain species known to be migratory. The hotel was enveloped in a fog-like cloud as soon as the sun set, and between 9.30 and 10.30 p.m. the lights were visited by numerous *Noctua pronuba* L. and also not a few *Celerio lineata livornica* Esp., *Agrotis ipsilon* Hufn., and *Autographa gamma* (L.). (Of these, singletons of only one, *pronuba*, had hitherto been noted at the Lac; singletons



of *pronuba* and *ipsilon* had been attracted to light also at Casteil on 22nd June, and one *gamma* on 28th June. All three could well have been indigenous there.) On 10th July, a normal, fine night, with quarter-moon, no more *livornica* were to be seen and only one *pronuba*, one *ipsilon* and one *Nomophila noctuella*. 11th July was thundery and one more *pronuba* appeared at light, but other moths came in normal numbers. One *noctuella* was seen again on our last night, 13th July, but that is all. It seems evident that the conditions described for 9th July favoured a nocturnal migration, possibly northwards from Spain across the range into lowland France or, less probably, to some high point. Whatever their actual destination, the light can only have attracted those within a limited radius, vision being obstructed by the dense cloud, and one presumes that far greater numbers were performing the suggested migration. Mention has already been made of the small numbers of day-flying migrants, whose movements are often compared with those of the above nocturnal species, e.g., *V. cardui* and *A. urticae* at Les Cortalets and Col de Jou in late June.

On days not devoted to foot-expeditions in the immediate neighbourhood of the Lake, we used the car to visit several interesting localities lower down. The new road to Font Romeu, colourfully planted with lupins along its verges, traversed a forested ridge at about 1800 m., and had one or two favourable clearings or glades, where we noted a small dark form of *Plebejus argus*, one or two *Mellicta parthenoides* Kef., *Euchloe ausonia* Hübn., *E. oeme pacula*, and *triaria*. But there was better country further afield, in the Upper Aude or the Cerdagne, using the roads through Mont Louis and Font Romeu respectively. The Matemale barrage is the chief source of the Aude and is situated at about 1500 m., in a rather windy, open valley. The surrounding slopes are swampy or forested and seemed to have a rich diurnal fauna. Close to the lake itself at 1500 m. and again at 1600 m. near Les Angles we took several *E. aurinia debilis* and the two *Erebia* just mentioned, also *Palaeochrysophanus hippothoe mirus* Verity. Meadows close to the Matemale village produced *Plebicula amanda* D. & S. (= *icarius* Esp.) subs. *pyrenaeorum* Verity, *Scopula immorata* (L.), and torrent-slopes near La Llagone (1700 m.), closer to Mont Louis, *Cl. selene*, *P. argus*, and *Anaitis praeformata* Hübn.; the latter indeed, appeared in several localities in this neighbourhood, the large females flying by day being easy to catch and sometimes, as at our hotel, also coming to light.

On another day we crossed the Cerdagne southwards from Mont Louis and found the lower slopes of the frontier range at 1570 m. between St. Pierre les Forcats and Planes very rich in butterfly species on 7th July, including *Brenthis ino* Rott., both *Clossiana* species, two *Mellicta* species, *Coenonympha arcania* (L.) subsp. *cephalus* Geoff., and very ragged *Callophrys rubi*.

Our favourite locality on these slopes, however, was west of the Col de la Perche, at about 1500 m. in the Val d'Eyne, equally easily reached by road via Font Romeu. The flowery meadows close to the Eyne stream just before it passes under Route Nationale 116 were particularly rich, with woods on one side, and more rocky slopes on the other. Here a single male of *Satyrus ferula* F. subsp. *cordula* Scop. was taken, not in cabinet condition, but the first taken in this part of the Cerdagne. According to Dr Tavoillot, who has regularly spent entomological holidays in this area, the distribution of this species in the Pyrenees is wider than stated in Higgins and Riley: Dufay recorded it from Vernet and Col du Jou, and Dr Tavoillot himself had found it near Mont Louis and at St. Thomas (Tet valley) but not higher than 1600 m. De Worms (1966) of course reported taking it at Py, above Sahorre. The race of *Parnassius apollo* L. in the Val d'Eyne, seemed, from the one example I took, to be nearer the form *portensis* Ruet. from Porté than that of Canigou, which I had taken commonly at Casteil. The interesting *Coenonympha glycerion* Bork. (= *iphis*) was just appearing on my second visit to this spot. A fine show was put up by *Heodes virgaureae* (L.) *pyrenaicola* Graves, *P. hippothoe* was quite common, likewise *B. ino* and other Fritillaries, but of *Lysandra coridon* Poda only one male was seen. *Gnophos myrtillatus obfuscatus* Hübn. was one of the few moths seen, and though *M. lachesis* was taken again, it was disappointing that it was not *russiae* Esper!

I was sorry not to learn of Dr Tavoillot's presence at Mont Louis until our last day at Lac des Bouillouses, and I was unable to consult him about the localities to be worked. However, there is much to be said for striking out on one's own, and not going where others have gone before.

On 15th July we drove from Lac des Bouillouses to Narbonne, branching off at Millas across the Corbières, taking the less frequented route northward from near Estagel. A mistral gathered force through the day; clouds crept eastward along the chain, and in the low arid hills of the Corbières an intermittent drizzle was beginning. Stopping at 200 m. between Estagel and the Aude frontier we sampled the butterflies, and found them to include *M. g. lachesis*, still in good condition, *Hipparchia alcyone* D. & S., quite common, and *Colias australis* Verity. As we reached Narbonne station, our destination, the temperature had dropped and a northerly gale was blowing over the whole of France. Having been so lucky in the weather throughout our holiday, we felt no regrets as our train carried us rapidly away from the butterfly-rich slopes of southern France towards the green fields and pastures of Normandy.

(To be continued)